

3-7-2001

## Daily Eastern News: March 07, 2001

Eastern Illinois University

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“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

## News

The Panther Express’ afternoon route is eliminated.

Story on Page 3

## News

Student Senate will consider a proposal to reduce executive members’ tuition waivers.

Story on Page 5

## Sports

Softball team hosts a double-header against the University of Illinois today.

Story on Page 12



# Theft numbers decline, but cars targeted more

By Lauren Quinlan  
Staff writer

Incidents of theft on campus have gone down in recent years but should still be of concern to students, said Art Mitchell, police officer for the University Police Department.

Mitchell said theft has decreased by a 45 percent margin within the last couple of years and continues to drop in 2001.

In 1999, there were 127 thefts reported while in 2000, the number dropped to 73, he said.

Although the theft rate has gone down, there continues to be problems with items being stolen from parked automobiles, Mitchell said. In previous years, most thefts occurred in residence hall rooms, but recently there have been

more reports of it occurring in students’ automobiles, he said.

Mitchell said often times unlocked car doors can lead to stolen compact discs and CD players. There have been cases where hundreds of dollars worth of CDs were stolen, he said.

Theft in residence halls is something students should be especially conscious of as well.

Jody Stone, assistant resident director, said dorm theft is not a common problem, but students should take precautions to prevent it.

“Students should not lend out keys or prop open doors,” Stone said.

He said residence halls take precautions to prevent theft.

Resident assistants are required to walk through each floor of their particu-

lar halls every evening to help discontinue theft, Stone said. Also, when keys are lost, the doors have their locks reconfigured, he said.

Officer Mitchell said there is not one particular residence hall that experiences the most theft. However, Mitchell also offered students advice to help prevent potential theft situations.

“Don’t tell roommates where your valuables are and don’t keep cash and checkbooks in the same place,” Mitchell said.

Most times when a checkbook is stolen, the student’s Panther Card also will be stolen, he said. Students should not make themselves vulnerable when it comes to their property, he said.

See THEFT Page 9



Kate Mitchell / Assoc. photo editor

Neftali Droz, a sophomore undecided major, dressed as Larry the crash test dummy, rides with Eric Davidson, assistant director of health services, Tuesday afternoon while Davidson drives through the drunk driving course at the Safe Spring Break event in the South Quad. The event was held to promote spring break safety.

# South Quad festival features a safety theme to prepare students for break

By Benjamin Tully  
Staff writer

The shimmering sun and a bone-chilling wind set the tone for the RSO sponsored Safe Spring Break Carnival of Safety Tuesday. A brisk afternoon walk to the South Quad gave students a look inside all the important factors in enjoying a safe spring break, ranging from the correct use of condoms to safe driving tips.

The BACCHUS peer group, which is dedicated to making students aware of the dangers of alcohol, hosted a variety of events which allowed students to have fun while learning about spring break

related safety issues.

“We are hoping to get through to a lot of students so they’ll remember, and make wise choices on spring break,” said Jessica Galloway, a sophomore speech pathology major and President of BACCHUS.

A car parked near the center of the quad offered students a shot at the “suitability relay,” where the participants’ goal is to get in and out of the car’s individual seats and seat belts in rapid succession, beginning and ending with their original seat, in order to get the best time.

Another event sponsored by BACCHUS was “condom bingo” where students spell the word “condom,” in place

of bingo in order to win gift certificates to local eateries around Charleston.

James Williams, police officer for the University Police Department, and Eric Davidson, assistant director for health education and promotions, implemented a drunk driving simulation, including special goggles, a golf cart and safety-cone obstacle course.

Williams offered students information pertaining to drunk driving laws as they boarded and unboarded the golf cart.

“You would be surprised how many people don’t know the legal limit,” Williams said.

See FESTIVAL Page 9

# County AIDS cases low, but Illinois’ rise

By Jennifer Rigg  
Activities editor

Reported AIDS cases in Illinois have gone up for the second consecutive year according to statistics released by the Illinois Department of Health.

Dr. John R. Lumpkin, state public health director, said the increase may be contributed to better compliance in reporting older cases rather than a sudden resurgence in the disease.

According to numbers calculated by the Illinois Department of Public Health, in 2000, Coles County had three reported cases, compared to one in 1999, one in 1998, four in 1997 and none in 1996. Of the surrounding counties, Edgar only had one case reported in 2000, Douglas had only two reported in 1997, Cumberland has no reported cases and Champaign had six in 2000, 11 in 1999, seven in 1998, 20 in 1997 and seven in 1996.

Tom Schafer, of the Illinois Department of Public Health, said there were 1,781 AIDS cases reported in 2000, bringing the cumulative total in Illinois since 1981 to 24,934. Illinois has the sixth highest total in the United States, Schafer said.

The number of AIDS cases has increased by 224 since 1999; however, there has been an overall drop of 41 percent in the state’s AIDS caseload since 1994, Schafer said.

Lumpkin said that the increases reported in the past two years, including a 24 percent jump from 1998 to 1999, can be attributed, in large part, to health care providers heeding the Department’s call for better reporting of HIV and AIDS cases.

Of the 1,781 cases reported last year, only 36 percent, or 634, were actually diagnosed and reported in 2000. The rest of the cases were diagnosed in previous years, some as far back as 1988, Schafer said. In 1999, 41 percent of the 1,557 cases reported were diagnosed that year.

Eric Davidson, assistant director for health education and promotion, said that one reason for the decrease in reported numbers of AIDS cases is that in the early days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, many individuals were diagnosed with full-blown AIDS without having been tested for HIV.

Today, because of increased awareness and more frequent and earlier testing, people diagnosed with HIV can make medical and behavioral changes that can slow the weakening of the immune system and the opportunistic infections that result in a person being diagnosed with AIDS, Davidson said.

The number of AIDS cases reported to the Department increased in mid-1999 after a concentrated effort was launched by the state and local health departments to inform health care providers of the new patient code identifier system for reporting HIV cases and to emphasize to them the importance of reporting AIDS cases.

The new patient code identifier system is kept confidential by the state, so information on the system is unavailable.

Joyce Zschau, HIV educator at the Coles County Health Department, said that there are two different forms of testing, confidential and anonymous.

Anonymous testing is the only form offered at the Coles County Health Department. The anonymous system lets people wanting tests schedule appointments and give the department a number only. They do not give their names.

“Everything is done on a number system,” Zschau said.

After the test is completed the person is then called back in for consultation. No name is used, only a number that the person comes up with so it is easily remembered. At the end of the month, the health department completes a survey recording the number of tests they have per-

See AIDS Page 9



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Fun and games in Union

By Jeremy Pelzer  
Student government editor

The Martin Luther King Jr. University Union will be jam-packed with games, novelties and entertainment tonight for the second annual Campus Life Night. The event will take place tonight from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Union. Art Davis, vice president for student affairs and the organizer of Campus Life Night, said the event will allow students a break from the stress of mid-terms. "I understand that most teachers are appointing a lot of work this week," Davis said. "So I view this event as a chance to get away, for


students to take a break." In the Grand Ballroom, students will be able to jump around on inflatables, zap their friends in a game of laser tag and even receive a button with their picture on it. The Grand Ballroom will also offer a bingo game, with prizes ranging from a CD player to a \$150 camera, Davis said. Several recognized student organizations will also hold games of their own, such as "penny in a bottle," in the University Ballroom. Between games, students will be able to munch on snacks from nachos and muffins to mozzarella sticks. Davis has also arranged for live

student entertainment: comedian Dwight Nelson and singer Al Dertz will perform for students starting at 7 p.m. in the University Ballroom. "Even if I wasn't the person putting on this event, I would still go to it," Davis said. "It sounds that fun to me." What's more, everything at Campus Life Night is free, Davis said. "The raffle is free. The food? That's free," he said. "The only thing that's not free is transportation (to Campus Life Night). But if you walk, then that's free, too." Davis said he would like to see a minimum of 1,000 students attend the event.

two-day  
forecast

today

39° Mostly cloudy  
20°



Thursday

44° Partly cloudy  
22°



What's on  
tap?

Special events open to all students, faculty, staff and community members can be published in What's on tap. Events limited to specific groups or organizations or regularly scheduled events can be published in CampusClips. To have your event included send details, including time, date, place and cost, to [cucds6@pen.eiu.edu](mailto:cucds6@pen.eiu.edu) or bring a written statement to 1811 Buzzard Hall.

Today

- 6 p.m., German animal sounds, Coleman Hall Room 102.
- 7 p.m., Spanish game night, Coleman Hall Room 102.
- 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Campus Life Night, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.
- 4 p.m., Tumbleweeds, Stevenson Hall, Women's Resource Center, Basement.
- 

Thursday

- 6:30 p.m., French film, "Buffet Froid," Coleman Hall Room 120.
- 7:30 p.m., "Playing the Game," Charleston/Mattoon Room, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.
- 7 p.m., Jabali Afrika, Grand Ballroom, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.
- 7 p.m., International Women's Day, Effingham Room, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Friday

- 7:30 p.m., Viennese concert pianist Gottlieb Wallisch, Dvorak Concert Hall, Doudna Fine Arts Center.
- 6:30 p.m., Local Red Cross Training, 108 North 15th Street, Mattoon, Ill.



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Plus an order of our  
delicious Cinnamon  
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**PIZZAS**  
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Pizza!  
FREE DELIVERY

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Plus Tax

Congratulate  
the EIU Panther  
Basketball Team!

Run an Ad in the  
NCAA Preview  
on Thursday March 8th  
and get 1/2 off the same size  
ad in the  
NCAA Souvenir Guide  
on March 20th

JUNIOR GREEK COUNCIL WISHES EVERYONE A  
SAFE SPRING BREAK!



Stop by our table at Coleman for raffle prizes!

**Δ Z** Dream Man  
Contest

Today: Talent Show Competition  
All proceeds go to the Gallaudet  
University for Speech and Hearing





Kate Mitchell / Assoc. photo editor

Calling the tunes

Katie Suvada, a junior speech communication major, announces Frank Sinatra's "Call me irresponsible" during the jazz show Tuesday afternoon in the radio station. The Jazz show runs 12:30 through 5 p.m. until Friday.

Academic Affairs posting newsletter online

By Joseph Ryan  
Administration editor

A new outlet for campus news is now available from the Academic Affairs office.

The first issue of the Academic Affairs Newsletter is available to the public at [www.eiu.edu/~acaf-fair/news/letter.htm](http://www.eiu.edu/~acaf-fair/news/letter.htm).

"By design, the newsletter highlights what we are doing right at Eastern Illinois University," said Lida Wall, interim vice president for academic affairs, states on the Web site.

The newsletter is broken down into five sections: feature stories, guest column, faculty, students and alumni.

"Eastern's good works do not

receive sufficient publicity. It is important for us to recognize and pay tribute to some of the outstanding accomplishments of faculty and students," Wall said.

She said the newsletter, which is updated continuously, was established to accomplish one of her goals and one of the goals of last year's Faculty Senate forum.

The Faculty Senate spring forum, held in March of 2000, was based on improving faculty research, creative activity and development.

One of the aspects of the forum report states that despite the intrinsic rewards faculty receive from pursuing research and creative activity, extrinsic recognition also is needed.

The report continues to state that

such action could improve faculty morale, increase visibility of those actively pursuing research and creative activity and send a message to students and other communities about the importance the academy accords these activities.

The faculty section offers a detailing of faculty accomplishments such as awards and grants that were received. In addition, the feature section provides longer stories on faculty research and campus activities.

The student section of the newsletter gives a listing of students who have made the dean's list, students who have received scholarships and other student accomplishments.

Also, accomplishments of alumni are listed in the alumni section.

Afternoon bus route unexpectedly stopped

Service to Mattoon, the Square, Walker's and Lantz Gym lost

By Jeremy Pelzer  
and Mike Laskero  
Staff writers

Panther Express buses last weekend unexpectedly stopped service to many off-campus destinations.

Student Senate Speaker Adam Weyhaupt said H&H Transportation, the company contracted to operate the Panther Express bus system, decided to stop running the bus route to Mattoon last weekend.

Last Monday, the company also halted service on the No. 2 route, which shuttles students to places such as Wilb Walker's, Lantz Gym and the Square, Weyhaupt said.

"This comes as quite a shock to me, I depend on that bus service," said Vic Regan, a sophomore education major. "What am I going to do when it's cold outside?"

The exact reason for the stoppage was unclear. However, H&H Transportation, contracted by the university last semester to run the Panther Express for the spring semester, notified the university last month that it did not believe it would be able to provide the full service at the amount it bid on, Weyhaupt said.

Also, Scott Harrison, the owner of H&H, had previously asked to cut the No. 2 and the Mattoon routes because of low ridership, Weyhaupt said.

"We never agreed to those

cuts," Weyhaupt said.

"H&H made the decision (to stop bus service) without the consent of the university or Student Government," said Student Body President Katie Cox.

Harrison refused comment Tuesday.

Weyhaupt said he and Cox are working with the university to resolve the situation "as fast as we can."

"The students paid for a service with these hours, with two buses," he said. "For the students' sake, since they're paying for this, they need to get what they paid for."

Many Eastern students were inconvenienced and angered by the sudden halt in service.

"I'm outraged," said Stuart Valerugo, a freshman business major. "I depend on the Panther Express to get to class during the week, and also for recreational purposes on the weekend."

Shanon Ozog, a freshman sociology major, said she thinks the university should consider another bus company for students.

Matt Gallagher, a freshman undecided major, said he felt betrayed.

"I feel I've been left out in the cold," Gallagher said.

**Notice To Our Ladies Who Buy Oral Contraceptives**

Through The EIU Pharmacy  
Our Services Will Be Limited During Spring Break And We Will Be Unable To Fill Oral Contraceptive Prescriptions During Spring Break!

Please Be Sure That You Have Enough Oral Contraceptives To Last During Spring Break.  
We Will Be Taking Orders For Summer Supplies As Soon As Spring Break Is Over

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**Pardon our Mess!!**

The offices of  
**Career Services**  
will be painted during Spring Break.  
We will remain open for business in a limited capacity during that week (3/12-3/16).

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Congratulation to Apha Phi on grades for Fall

4.0			
Courtney Bleke			
Jessica Catto			
Courtney Goembel	Nikki Paden	3.0-3.4	Stephany Avros
Emilee Hussman	Natalie Pavone	Didi Baumruck	Jessica Jurgatis
Megan LaRoche	Megan Philpott	Stephany Blair	Ingrid Kays
Carrie Masek	Marla Richards	Michelle Bokios	JoAnna Kierbs
Erica Smith	Kelly Robbins	Laurie Bozenda	Colleen Klein
Mary Uremovic	Megan Schrader	Heather Braun	Carrie Kopina
Elizabeth Vogel	Kelly Tarkowski	Emily Buckley	Suzi Kunkle
3.5-3.9	Dawn Weidner	Rebecca Calabrese	Becky Leppert
Elizabeth Burdinski	Brooke White	Christy Calhoun	Erin Lichter
Carrie Cohorst	Karen Whitlock	Kathleen Craig	Missy McIntyre
Amy Cotugno	Angie Willis	Kelli Cronkite	Emily Maack
Anastasia Dorsey		Patty Cuttone	Natalie Macellaio
Jennifer Fanthorpe		Melanie Dennis	Amanda Martinez
Angie Grainger		Katie Dohner	Kristin Mayer
Theresa Koch		Jamie Doman	Amanda Meehan
Lauren Lagoni		Mary Dwyer	Kelly Merkel
Elizabeth Lauer		Angoli Faso	Lana Miller
Joy Litwiller		Karina Freer	
Shannon McNamara		Laura Gray	
Kristin Newton			
Carrie Ninness			
Rachel Ninness			
Sara Nonneman			
Missy Ogle			



# A smart move

Very rarely do people take good advice and follow it. Eastern President Carol Surles has, however, much to the benefit of the university.

Surles said she will retract her proposal to change a Board of Trustees regulation that allows executive administrators to be granted tenure upon their being hired for a position.

Surles’ proposal would essentially void that regulation, making it impossible for such administrators to receive tenure.

Tenure, which practically ensures professors a lifetime position within a department, is an extremely important aspect in the academic world. To attain tenure, faculty members work years devoting themselves to the university. In these times of tight job markets, granting tenure to executive administrators is an effective and necessary tool in hiring for a university of this size.

Considering that the university is seeking employees for three of the four vice presidential positions, this does not seem like a good time to handicap the university by taking away that recruiting tool.

For once, the campus has spoken out loud concerning a proposed regulation change, and someone has listened.

David Radavich, president of the University Professionals of Illinois, and James Tidwell, chair of Faculty Senate, both said they are not in favor of the regulation change. In addition, the Faculty Senate unanimously passed a resolution condemning the proposed change.

Shortly after the campus voiced its opinion, Surles responded by stating she would withdraw the proposal at the next BOT meeting. That is what a president should do — listen to her university.

The whole idea of Surles’ proposal was already questionable. The rules state that the granting of tenure must be initiated by the president and approved by the related departments and deans. Why did Surles want to change the rules if she already had the power to do what she wanted?

The question may never be answered. The proposal was an item added to the BOT agenda at the last minute, and Surles’ responses to questions have been brief and vague. The announcement of her retraction didn’t even come from her — it came through Lida Wall, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.

But however it happened, Eastern should feel good that it *did* happen, and President Surles deserves the credit.

■ The editorial is the opinion of the editorial board of *The Daily Eastern News*.

## Today’s quote

“We are generally the better persuaded by the reasons we discover ourselves than by those given to us by others.

Blaise Pascal  
mathematician, 1623-1662

”

# Violent lessons are hardest to learn

Moving through different levels of education, I have always struggled with two particular subjects: math and history. I’ve never fully understood why or how math works, and probably never will. I’ve learned to accept the fact that my checkbook will never be balanced.

History, on the other hand, is one of those subjects that I’m beginning to appreciate, and I’m starting to understand its importance.

It appears that most Americans are about as dumb as I am when it comes to history. It’s been said that we should learn from the past and that history is the window looking back.

However, history was ignored once again Monday when yet another student opened fire on his fellow classmates and teachers at a high school in Santee, Calif.

Has America learned nothing? During the past several years there has been a number of painful lessons on school violence in America. But it seems like nothing has been learned from those lessons.

I’m left wondering what it will take for the violence and hatred that is prevalent in the school systems to come to an end.

Scrolling through various news organizations’ coverage on the Internet and the message boards that provide readers the opportunity to voice their opinions, I’m left thinking that we have, indeed, learned nothing from the past.

On CNN.com’s message board I saw that the child responsible for the latest school tragedy was not held responsible by readers who wanted to throw their two cents in on the subject. In fact, nearly every excuse I could think of was given as an explanation to the common question: Why?

I’ll be the first to admit that I do not have the solution to the problem. I was fortunate enough to attend a high school where the threat of violence was left to fistfights in the school parking lot. I never worried about someone pulling a gun or knife on me or other members of my school’s community.



Chris Sievers  
News editor

“It appears that most Americans are about as dumb as I am when it comes to history.”

Looking at the messages posted, one would think the shooter was the victim. Why?

Columbine is the most remembered and emotional school shooting in history. I felt deep sorrow for those who had to go through the painful ordeal and I’m sure others share my sympathy.

Here’s where history comes in. One of the deepest and most powerful lessons that came from Columbine was that when you

hear someone taking about committing this violent act, you tell someone about it — even if you think the person might be joking.

This was clearly not the case this time. The news media picked up on the fact that at least two students were consulted about the shooting in California and even invited to take part in it, yet they did little to stop it.

The students who knew about the planned attack are not the only ones who did take the appropriate actions: an adult overheard the teens’ conversation and opted to do nothing about it.

Despite all of the psychological excuses given to the teen shooter, the only one who is truly at fault is the teen who pulled the trigger that killed two students and injured many more.

Why would people offer excuses for this child? He pulled the trigger — not the music industry, the NRA or God. These were among the common responses posted on the message board.

Hopefully it will not take more violence and loss of innocent lives for America to learn its lesson when it comes to stopping school violence.

After all, it’s a socially acceptable excuse to come up a little short in your checkbook balance, but it’s a little harder to forgive when a painful lesson in history is missed.

■ Chris Sievers is a senior journalism major and a semi-monthly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*. His e-mail address is cdsievers@eiu.edu. Columns are the opinion of the author.



## Ethernet column had mistakes

I am writing in response to Shauna Gustafson’s Feb. 28 column concerning Eastern’s new Ethernet connections. The column makes several references to the category six cable required to connect to the Internet.

One of the comments was based on information provided to the author by an unnamed university employee who claimed that “the system is set up to handle a category five cable just fine.”

This is completely incorrect. Anyone using a category five cable will receive poor Internet reception, errors, and more than likely, will not

## Your turn

Letters to the editor

ba able to access the Internet at all. A category five cord is unable to resist the radio waves emitted by the WEIU-FM antenna.

That is why a category six cable is an absolute necessity. Therefore, if you have a category five cable and your Internet connection is not working correctly, you simply need to replace it with a category six cable.

One of the other comments made in the column was, “The university is able to charge whatever it wants — it could charge \$50 a cord, and no one

could do anything about it.” With that said, we only charge \$15 for a category six cable — which is the exact amount the university paid for the cables. We could charge more, but we don’t and we won’t.

Another statement inferred that we are trying to make it as a difficult as possible for Eastern students to purchase a cable. Access to category six cables is as easy as we could possibly make it. They are currently available at nine separate on-campus locations (every residence hall front desk and the University Court office.)

**Chad Franks**

University housing and dining services

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**EDITORIALS** – *The Daily Eastern News* prints editorials that reflect the majority opinion of *The Daily Eastern News* student editorial board.



# Bylaw proposes to change executives' waivers

By **Jeremy Pelzer**  
Student government editor

A bylaw change proposal that would limit executive officers' tuition waiver will be presented to the Student Senate tonight.

The senate will meet at 7 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The senate also will consider recommendations regarding parental notification and the use of academic

buildings by Recognized Student Organizations.

Under current senate bylaws the Senate Speaker, Student Body President and four student vice president positions receive a waiver for most of their tuition cost, regardless of the number of credit hours taken.

The proposed bylaw change, however, only would compensate the officer for 12 credit hours. It also would require an officer who left office in the middle of the year to pay for that year's tuition.

Senate Speaker Adam Weyhaupt, co-sponsor of the proposal along with Student Body President Katie Cox, said the proposed change would allow all executives to be compensated equally.

"The students hired us to represent them. If they hired person A and person B to represent them, why should they pay person A more?" he said.

Weyhaupt said the proposal also would save the students money.

In other business, the senate will

consider two resolutions.

The first recommends that student groups be allowed to set up informational/advertising tables in all academic buildings on campus.

Marty Ruhaak, co-sponsor of the resolution, said right now, campus scheduling only allows RSOs and other organizations to set up tables in Coleman Hall, Buzzard Hall and the union.

The second resolution recommends that parental notification of disciplinary action taken against

students be stopped.

University Housing's current policy states that the parents of students under the age of 21 who are financially dependent on their guardians will be notified by the university of certain disciplinary actions taken upon that student.

The resolution recommends that the guardians of students 18 years or older should not be notified since the students are legally considered adults and are responsible for their own actions.

## CAA to consider adding seminars

By **Joseph Ryan**  
Administration editor

Three new senior seminars may be added next year depending on the Council on Academic Affairs' decision Thursday.

CAA meets at 2 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Last week's agenda items were moved to this week because last week's meeting was canceled.

"It seemed more judicious to hold the meeting off until (this week) so that we can add new agenda items at that time," said CAA Chair Ron Wohlstein, sociology/anthropology professor.

One of the three new senior seminars to be voted on, Impact of Communication Deficits:

Adjusting to Cultural Demands (4175G), will provide a better understanding of cultural perception, misconception and expectations in verbal communicative demands, according to the proposal.

Another senior seminar course up for approval, Nutritional Dilemmas and Decisions (4151G), will examine the relationship of food and nutrition in connection to multi-cultural practices, according to the proposal.

The rationale from the course is stated as awareness of pertinent issues increases the ability of an individual to make informed decisions.

The final senior seminar, Controversial Issues in Education (4105G), is structured to supply a forum for the discussion of educational issues that have been labeled as controversial.

## RSO Council not going as planned

By **Jeremy Pelzer**  
Student government editor

The majority of Recognized Student Organizations have not had representation at the RSO Council, citing reasons from lack of knowledge to previous commitments.

Sarah Newton, president of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Allies Union, said her group met at the same time as the council meeting.

She also said apathy was a major reason for the low attendance.

"It's a good idea in theory, but getting people to go is a whole other story," she said. "Most people don't care either way."

The RSO Council was formed by the Student Senate to allow more RSOs to be involved in university affairs. Monday's meeting attracted three RSO delegates, and the previous week, 10

RSO delegates attended.

Clifton Smith, president of the Black Student Union, said he planned to attend last Monday's meeting, but a prior engagement prevented him from going. He said he plans on attending next week's meeting.

Another RSO never knew an RSO Council existed. Willie Toney, president of Zeta Alpha Omicron, said no one at her RSO had heard of the Council.

Marty Ruhaak, chair of the senate's Student Relations committee, blamed the poor attendance on lack of advertising.

"It's not as well advertised as I would like," Ruhaak said. He said he plans to write a letter to *The Daily Eastern News* to inform people about the council meetings.

He also hopes to attract representatives from groups to give presentations to council delegates.


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# Residents' fears of Fourth Street's widening expressed at City Council

By Amber Williams  
City editor

Members of the Charleston Neighborhood Council expressed their concerns about the possible widening of Fourth Street to the City Council Tuesday night.

Mayor Dan Cougill met with members earlier this week to discuss the possibilities for development on Fourth Street between Polk and Harrison avenues that do not necessarily include widening it.

Duke Bagger, chairman of the Charleston Neighborhood Council, said the Charleston Neighborhood Council objects to any project that includes widening Fourth Street, adding a sidewalk on the east side of Fourth Street or any action compromising the value of property on Fourth Street.

Charleston Neighborhood Council member Terry Foreman said widening Fourth Street would drastically cut into resident's property and increase the noise level in the neighborhood.

"We are trying to keep the neighborhood in good condition," Foreman said.

The City Council has not approved any action for widening or improving that section of Fourth Street yet and is open to communicate with residents of the street, Cougill said. In the future, the city will hold public hearings to talk with residents about possible improvements to make on the street.

The city would like to use motor fuel tax funds to fund any improvements that will be made to Fourth Street, which means that the city also would have to comply with regulations set by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

The intersection of Harrison Avenue and Fourth Street has a traffic flow of 5,700 cars per day, according to statistics compiled by the Illinois Department of Transportation in 1999, Cougill said. That number of people traveling the street classifies it as a minor arterial, which is supposed to be 30 feet curb to curb.

Fourth Street is currently only about 23 feet curb to curb.

If widening the street is a possibility, the City Council may be able to issue variances to change how wide the street is required to be, Cougill said.

In other business, the City Council, along with Student Government, proclaimed April 2001 as diversity month for the community.

Yve Williams, chair of the Student Senate's diversity affairs committee, said the theme of Diversity Month will be "A World of Difference," and the Student Government is trying to plan a celebration on the square to honor diversity.

The City Council also honored Craig Coen and Mark Benner for rescuing a person whose car plunged into Lake Charleston on Feb. 15. Benner and Coen dialed 911 and then jumped into the icy water to save the driver's life before the car became completely submerged, Cougill said.

Check out  
[thedailyeasternnews.com](http://thedailyeasternnews.com)  
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Adriene Weller / Staff photographer

## Celebration games

Chidi Obia and Adam Held, both third graders at Carl Sandburg Elementary School, hook paper fish in the gym of the school. This was one of many activities taking place as part of Dr. Seuss Day.

## Safety resource center keeping children safe

By Amber Williams  
City editor

A new Child Passenger Safety Resource Center is being sponsored by Eastern and the Illinois Department of Transportation to help keep children safe on the road.

The Child Passenger Safety Resource Center, located at 655 W. Lincoln Ave. Suite 11, began Jan. 1 through grants with Eastern and the Illinois Department of Transportation, said Carrie Welsh, a child safety seat technician.

Any parent can go to the resource center free of charge to have their child's seat checked and to make sure it is not on the list of seats that have been recalled in past years, Welsh said.

Appointments are preferred to have seats checked, but the technicians will accept walk-ins if they are not too busy.

"We have had a really good response," Welsh said.

The technicians, who go through a four-day training period, have a checklist of prob-

lems with car seats to go over with parents.

The biggest problem that the technicians see is that car seats are not fastened tight enough, Welsh said. A car seat should not be able to move more than one inch to either side.

Technicians ask that anyone using a car seat more than seven years old to buy a new one because of the regular wear and tear. Extremes in cold and warm temperatures can warp the plastic on the seats, Welsh said.

The Child Safety Seat Resource Center also has a room of car seats where parents can see what type of car seat they might want to buy or if a certain type will fit in their car, Welsh said.

The technicians would also like to raise awareness in the injuries that occur when children are not properly restrained.

"A lot of people do not understand that their child needs to be restrained," Welsh said.

To make an appointment to have a car seat checked call 581-8391.

## White gets support for softer drunk driving proposals

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — After months of negotiation, Secretary of State Jesse White has brokered a deal for scaled-back legislation to crack down on the most serious drunken driving offenses.

White announced Tuesday that he has won the support of major breweries for a revised version of the plan he first offered last August

to strengthen drunken driving laws.

White wants to increase penalties for those who drive drunk with exceptionally high blood alcohol levels, with children under 16 in the vehicle, or with suspended or revoked drivers' licenses.

"This proposal focuses on the most dangerous and irresponsible drivers on the road — people who

have no respect for the law or the safety of our citizens," White said.

But his plan doesn't include some of the stiff penalties he proposed before, such as mandatory jail time for first-time offenders with high blood alcohol levels.

It also doesn't include provisions giving judges authority to impound the vehicles of repeat

offenders or preventing drivers who refuse breath tests from getting temporary driving permits.

White's plan now has the backing of law enforcement, anti-drunken driving groups and beer and wine distributors, including Miller Brewing Co. and Anheuser-Busch Cos. All three factions had concerns about his original proposal.

Although some of the most dramatic changes have been tossed out, White and his allies say the proposal still makes needed improvements.

Those include expansion of the "ignition interlock" program that requires repeat offenders to take a breath test to prove they are sober before their car will start.

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Building	Friday, Mar. 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 am - 5:00 pm
	Saturday, Mar. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, Mar. 12 - Friday, Mar. 16	7:00 am - 5:00 pm
	Saturday, March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
Sunday, March 18 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm - 1:00 am	

Bookstore	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am - 4:30 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Chick-Fil-A	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 am - 3:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Cops Express	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Closed

Coffee Express	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 am - 4:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Closed

Lobby Shop	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 am - 4:30 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, Mar. 12 <sup>th</sup> - Friday, Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Closed

Ticket Office	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, Mar. 12 - Friday, Mar. 16	Closed

Subway	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, Mar. 12 - Friday, Mar. 16	10:00 am - 4:00 pm

First Mid-Illinois Bank	Friday, March 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am - 4:00 pm
	Saturday, March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed
	Monday, Mar. 12 - Friday, Mar. 16	10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The University Union will reopen at 5:00 pm on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.  
Businesses will reopen on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at their regular times.

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Help wanted

The Recreation Department is IMMEDIATELY seeking applications for a Day Camp Director for this summer. We are looking for a responsible, enthusiastic individual with a four-year degree or pursuing a degree in education or related field, experience working with a children, lots of energy, and doesn't mind working outdoors all summer long. Day Camp will begin June 4th and ends August 10th. All applicants must apply at the Charleston Parks and Recreation Department, 520 Jackson Ave. Charleston, IL 61920. If any questions you may call 345-6897.

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Girls only, 1 &2 bedroom apt, across from Buzzard. Years Lease.

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Rental choices for 1-5 tenants. Lists available at 1512 A street. C21, Jim Wood, 345-4489.

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PRE-SPRING BREAK RENT SPECIAL 2001, JUNE AND JULY 2002 RENT FREE OR \$200.00 CASH BACK AT AUG. MOVE-IN. SPECIAL ENDS 3-9-01. UNIQUE HOMES 345-5022.

Female tenants wanted for huge 2 bdrm apts. A/C, off street parking, sundeck, completely furnished, trash and water included. Call 348-0819 Leave Message

3 or 4 people needed to lease at Brittany Ridge this Fall. Close to campus, W/D, central heat and air. First/last/deposit/lease. Trash paid. Available August 15. No pets. 345-8458.

For Rent- Fall 2001. 5-6 Bedroom House, 961 and 714 4th street. Call 348-1232 or 345-7993.

Clean, all girls 2 bedroom furnished apartment, w/central air. Laundry, trash, and water inc. \$260 ea. Northeast of Morton Park. Lease available in June or Aug. Call 235-3373 or evenings 348-5427.

LARGE 3 BR APARTMENTS NEXT TO BUZZARD BUILDING, FULLY FURNISHED. FURNISHINGS 3 YRS OLD OR LESS, EXTREMELY NICE. 3BR DUPLEX NEXT TO LANCE

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4 girls for student house one half block from Old Main on 7th St. 348-

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Single Apts. \$300 - \$350. Lease August '01 to May '02. Utilities included. Charleston Square. Dave 345-2171 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

CampusClips

GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL. General meeting today at 1 pm in Casey Room of MLK Union.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION. Weekly meeting today at 5:00 in Oakland Room.

FLG DEPARTMENT. German animal sounds presentation today from 6:00 - 6:30 pm in 102 Coleman Hall. Learn how to make animal sounds in German.

COUNSELING CENTER. Lifeskills Workshop Thursday, March 8, 2001 at 7:30 in the Charleston/Mattoon Room, MLK Union. "Playing The Game" presented by Dr. David Onestak, Dr. Karola Alford and Linda Anderson, Counseling Center. Are you tired of playing the game of dating and losing most of the time? This workshop will be an interactive version of the dating game. You will learn what to look for in someone to date and someone not to date.

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE. Russian film, English subtitles "Window to Paris" March 7, 2001 at 6:30-8:30 pm in Coleman 120. A zarry clash-of-cultures comedy. The story of a guy who lives in Moscow in his shabby apartment. One day he finds a hidden window. From there he can jump into the streets of Paris.

SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. Regular Meeting on Wed, Mach 7 at 6pm in Lumpkin Hall Rm 102.

SIGMA IOTA LAMBDA. Meeting today at 3pm in CH 203.

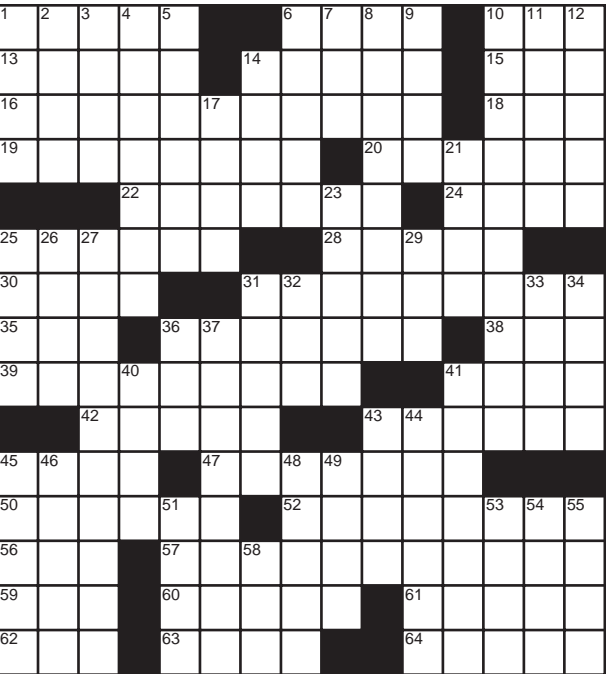
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY. Come to Wednesday Night Bible Study at 8pm in the Immanuel Student Center. This week we will study the Parable of the Tenants. Refreshments will be served.

ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. AIS meeting is today at 4:30 in front of the Union Bookstore. Everyone is welcome!

EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA. Business meeting will be this evening at 5:30pm in the Charleston/ Mattoon room. Wear pin attire. Due: formal money and chapter dues. Nursing home visits, if interested call Brittany at 581-2359.

STUDENTS ON HAND. Spades Social, Wednesday, March 7 from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at Taylor Lobby. New RSO Students on Hand is holding a spades social. Free pool, video games, board games, music, and of course spades. Bring your own partner.

PLEASE NOTE: Campus Clips are run free of charge ONE DAY ONLY for any non-profit, campus organizational event. No parties or fundraising activities and events will be printed. All clips should be submitted to The Daily Eastern News office by noon ONE BUSINESS DAY BEFORE DATE OF EVENT. Example: an event scheduled for Thursday should be submitted as a Campus Clip by NOON by Wednesday. (Thursday is deadline for Friday, Saturday, or Sunday events.) Clips submitted AFTER DEADLINE WILL NOT be published. No clips will be taken by phone. Any clip that is illegible or contains conflicting information WILL NOT BE RUN. Clips may be edited for available space.



Puzzle by David Ainslie Macleod

- ACROSS**

  - 1 Cracker toppers
  - 6 "Dirty" activity
  - 10 Director's call
  - 13 Javelin, for one
  - 14 Having a strong resemblance
  - 15 Botanist Gray
  - 16 Nurse's office supply
  - 18 Difficulty, to the Bard
  - 19 Like a garden-er's pants
  - 20 Stellar
  - 22 "Rocky II" climax
  - 24 Links unit
  - 25 Light reflection ratio
  - 28 Bomb squad worker
  - 30 Modeling medium
- DOWN**

  - 31 Believing that the universe has a soul
  - 35 Thunder Bay's prov.
  - 36 Place to put the feet up
  - 38 Lennon's love
  - 39 Uncages
  - 41 Semicircular recess
  - 42 Theater name
  - 43 Victim of hair loss?
  - 45 Austen heroine
  - 47 Water current in the same direction as the wind
  - 50 Windy one
  - 52 Gun manufacturers
  - 56 Mentalist Geller
  - 57 Millionaire makers
- DOWN**

  - 59 Cacophony
  - 60 Capone rival
  - 61 Plume source
  - 62 Legal conclusion?
  - 63 Jump over
  - 64 Places for forks

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

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C O T T O N B A L L S R U B  
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R E M A T C H H O L E  
A L B E D O R O B O T  
W O O D A N I M I S T I C  
O N T O T O M A N O N O  
L E T S L O O S E A P S E  
O D E O N S A M S O N  
E M M A L E E T I D E  
T A L K E R A R M O R E R S  
U R I L O T T O P R I Z E S  
D I N M O R A N E G R E T  
E S E O M I T R O A D S

- 14 Start of a magician's cry
- 17 Pitcher Hideo
- 21 Jefferson or Edison: Abbr.
- 23 Whodunit star
- 25 Roll call misser
- 26 Hermitic
- 27 Bean counter's concern
- 29 Bargain basement unit
- 31 In total agreement (with)
- 32 Dissenting votes

The Daily Eastern News  
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Person accepting ad: \_\_\_\_\_ Compositor: \_\_\_\_\_

No. words / days: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Dates to run: \_\_\_\_\_

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Theft

from Page 1

“Eighty-five percent of theft can be prevented by the victim, by being aware of personal property,” Mitchell said.

Kelly Miller, assistant director for student housing, said it is important to lock doors. She said students from rural areas tend to feel safe in Charleston and are accustomed to keeping doors unlocked. Nonetheless, locking doors to residence hall rooms and

automobiles could be vital in preventing theft in many instances, she said.

Mitchell said theft is inevitably going to occur sometimes though.

“There are people of questionable character everywhere,” he said.

Mitchell said to keep theft rates down, students need to be aware of where their personal property is and remember to keep all doors locked in their residence and automobile.

If a theft does occur on campus, students should fill out a report at the UPD, he said.

Festival

from Page 1

Davidson, sitting nonchalantly in the passenger seat of the golf cart said, “This is the drunk driving simulation with the fatal vision goggles.” Davidson accompanied students as they proceeded through the course, offering words of advice and warnings about the dangers of drunk driving. “Almost everyone has flunked,” Davidson said, as he prepared for the next

driver. The “fatal vision” goggles simulated a .16 blood alcohol level, which is twice the legal limit of .08.

“I feel as though I’m actually intoxicated,” Bryan Sparkman, a senior zoology major, said as he wore the goggles.

Students Neftali Droz, a sophomore undeclared major, and Jennifer Pitner, a sophomore environmental biology major, were dressed as crash test dummies “Larry and Vince,” in order to promote safe driving during spring break.

Another concern of the BACCHUS peer group is the safety of those students traveling by car to their spring break destinations, or “road tripping.”

Gentry Hawkins of the Wal-Mart automotive department answered students’ questions while he and the students looked over a car parked in the South Quad with its hood open.

Mark Rusk, a junior speech communications major, who is planning to go to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., said his car will be more than ready.

AIDS

from Page 1

vey is where the Illinois Department of Health gets the numbers for its yearly release of statistics, Zschau said.

With the implementation of the new patient code identifier system that health care providers use, doctors can now test patients using a confidential testing method, where the names of the patients are known, but are not released.

Schafer said that after doctors received records over the past 18 months, they found numerous cases that were identified in previous years but, for whatever reason, were not turned in.

“There are numerous factors that may explain the increased numbers, but the inescapable fact, no matter whether the statistics are up or down, is we still have much work to do before AIDS is brought under control,” Lumpkin said. “We must never lose sight of the fact HIV/AIDS is a preventable disease and the best way to stop its spread

is by providing the public with information about how it is transmitted.”

Lumpkin said prevention has become more difficult since the 1990s because caseloads were dropping. Getting people to heed the warnings became more difficult. He also said that medical advances in the treatment of HIV, although adding years to the lives of people, added to the people’s complacency Lumpkin said.

“Unfortunately, a growing number of people appear to be relying too much on treatment of

advances, ignoring prevention messages and returning to high-risk behavior,” Lumpkin said. “Each new generation needs to be reminded that HIV and AIDS are life-threatening diseases and about the importance of prevention.”

Davidson said that in a study completed in the early 1990s by Richard Keeling, a former director of health services at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, it was found that one out of every 500 students on a college campus has HIV.

While originally the AIDS epi-

demic primarily affected white men, it has diversified and now disproportionately impacts African Americans and is increasing faster among women, Schafer said. African Americans represented 59 percent of the new cases reported in 2000 and whites represented 26 percent. Hispanics accounted for 14 percent. Men accounted for 1,354 of the cases or 76 percent compared with 427 cases among women. Women represent 24 percent of the cases reported in 2000 compared with only 7 percent in 1990.

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The Daily Eastern News

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Natural Ties Spaghetti Dinner, March 22nd from 4:30 -7:30. For tickets or information call Leslie @ 345-6055! 3/7

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**Announcements**

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**Personals**

GOOD DOCTORS! 3/7

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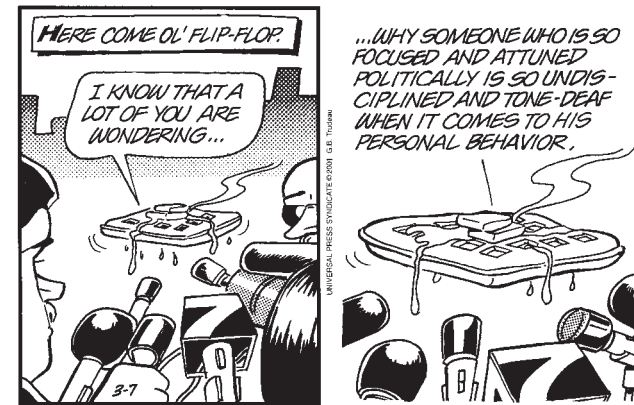
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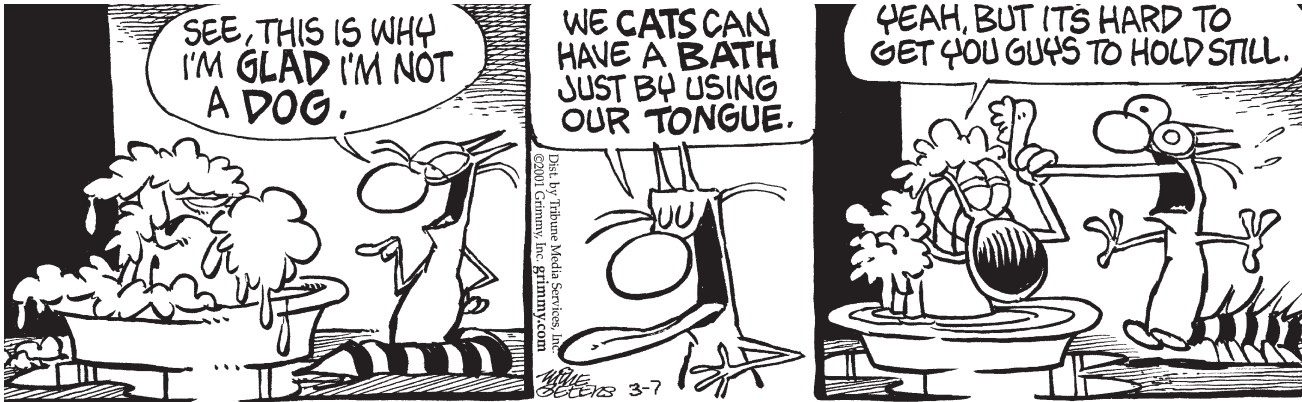
Delta Chi's, Have a fun and safe Spring Break! Be good! I'll miss you! Love, your sweetheart. 3/7



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GARY TRUDEAU

BY MIKE PETERS



world inbrief

Snow piles up and waves flood New England

RYE, N.H. (AP) — A nor'easter covered parts of New England with near-blizzard conditions Tuesday and hammered coastal communities with high waves, after failing to live up to expectations in much of the mid-Atlantic region. From Connecticut to Maine, schools were closed, flights were

canceled and offices shuttered Tuesday as an unofficial holiday for many people stretched into a second day. More than 20 inches of snow piled up early Tuesday at Keene, in southwestern New Hampshire, half of it falling in just three hours, according to the National Weather Service. But only a few inches fell in Boston and New York City. At least five people were killed in weather-related traffic accidents, four in New York state and one in Connecticut.

Eight bullets were left in teen's gun

SANTEE, Calif. (AP) — The "angry young man" accused of killing two fellow students fired

randomly and still had eight bullets in his gun when police cornered him in a school bathroom, investigators said Tuesday. Friends said the scrawny 15-year-old freshman accused in the nation's latest high school blood-bath talked about his plans over the weekend, and they took him seriously enough to pat him down before classes started Monday. One adult even warned Charles Andrew "Andy" Williams not to commit "a Columbine," and tried to call the boy's father but didn't follow through. But no one is known to have reported the threats that preceded Monday's attack that also wounded 13 at Santana High. During a news conference, authorities said the carnage could have been much worse if not for the swift actions of a sheriff's

deputy and an off-duty police officer who was on campus to register his child in the school.

Record labels get control of Napster

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal judge Tuesday laid down the law to Napster, saying that once the recording industry comes up with a list of copyright songs it wants removed from the music-swapping service, Napster will have 72 hours to comply. The order effectively gives the recording industry control over the immediate fate of the Internet music service that lets computer users download popular songs for free. Napster is fighting to stay

online and retain its popularity while promising to shift over to a subscription-based service that charges listeners and pays royalties to artists. For that, it needs the cooperation of the music labels that sued Napster for copyright infringement. Napster, which has struggled with little success in the past few days to screen out some songs already identified by record labels, declined to comment on the ruling by U.S. District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel. "If Napster complies with what this injunction says, it will be to our satisfaction," said Howard King, an attorney for heavy metal band Metallica and rapper-producer Dr. Dre in their \$10 million lawsuits against Napster.

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## Tickets for opening round tourney game go on sale starting Monday

Tickets for the Eastern's men's basketball team's first round game of the NCAA tournament will be made available on a first come, first serve basis starting Monday.

Tickets can be purchased by calling Pam Collins in Eastern's Athletic Department at 581-5726 or via e-mail at cspkc@eiu.edu.

The athletic department will also open the doors to the Lantz Gym

Recreation Center at 5 p.m. Sunday to watch the tournament selection show on the big screen.

The university will also hold a second pep rally for the men's basketball team at 4 p.m. today in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union to recognize the OVC tournament champions.

The rally will include the replay-

ing of the last six minutes of the game, as shown on ESPN, on big screen as well as the radio description by WHQQ's Mike Bradd.

The players and coaches will also give short speeches while the Panther pep band, cheer team and Pink Panthers will entertain the crowd.

—Compiled from staff reports

## Self

from Page 12

Samuels has been very happy with all the other national attention the team has received.

"When you're one of the first teams in, you're a good fit for a

lot of sports talk shows," Samuels said. "It's great not only for our basketball program but the university.

"I talked to Flint, Michigan. I had a guy call from San Diego," Samuels said. "I talked to ESPN, the Score in Chicago, sports radio 1000. It's good to talk about Eastern Illinois and our pro-

gram."

The Panthers were also mentioned in the cover story on the USA Today sports section and Kyle Hill was named Dick Vitale's player of the week after his 99 point performance over the course of the OVC tournament tied Bubba Wells tournament record (Austin Peay, 1997).

## Season

from Page 12

"It's very important to have games under our belt," Searle said. "California will help in the Hawaii tournament."

After losing four key seniors in Adrienne Noll, Julie Fonda, Sara DeLaere and Lindsay Klockenga, the team picked up in the off-season to add eight new players to the line-up.

"We're a good contact-hitting team and we have a stronger pitching staff," Searle said. "In all aspects, there are good prospects. We're young and we're looking at freshmen and sophomores to pitch.

"We're going to be calling on Kristen (Becker) as a veteran with only one year behind her."

The sophomore will be returning to the mound after posting second team all-Ohio Valley honors in her debut at Eastern.

With seniors Melissa Slama

and Carissa Friedewald to lead the Panthers into the start of the conference season, Eastern has high hopes for Ohio Valley Conference play.

"This is my fourth year here and I've seen more parody," Searle said. "This is becoming a very competitive sport and it's going to be a dogfight for the teams in the OVC to see the tournament weekend because they will only take six teams."

Eastern opens up conference play immediately after its return from Hawaii, hosting five consecutive league games, beginning with Eastern Kentucky.

"We're fortunate to have tournaments and doubleheaders before Eastern Kentucky," Searle said. "We need experience and game situations to really get us going when it really counts in OVC play.

"I'm excited about the year. It's anyone's guess to what the outcome will be in May. We're ready to play, even if it's 20 below."

Go to [thedailyeasternnews.com](http://thedailyeasternnews.com) for more photos from the OVC tourney

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## Pick up your NCAA PREVIEW on Thursday!!!



# Eastern gets some 'Self' appreciation

## Men's basketball team starts to see national recognition

By Robert Valentin  
Staff writer

Eastern's NCAA berth has garnered it a great deal of national attention, including a phone call from University of Illinois coach Bill Self.

"I called Rick (Eastern had coach Rick Samuels) to congratulate him on their win," said Self, whose team is ranked No. 4 in the country according to the ESPN/USA Today Coach's Poll. "What a great game it was.

"It was a remarkable comeback, no matter who you're playing," Self said. "Especially Austin Peay, who is one of the premier teams in the conference."

If the co-Big Ten champion falters in the Big Ten Tournament, they may wind up facing Eastern Illinois in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

"There is a distinct possibility we could play Eastern," Self said. "But they may be seeded better than 15 or 16. I think Eastern could be a 13 or

“



There is a distinct possibility we could play Eastern. But they may be seeded better than 15 or 16.

*Bill Self,  
Illini head coach*

”

14. That's what Rick and I talked about."

Self also thinks the Panthers could make some noise at the tournament.

"I think anything could happen," Self said. "They have firepower and they have a guy I know can score."

See **SELF** Page 11

## Don't even bother trying to figure out the tournament seeding

Eastern Illinois has made the NCAA Tournament. Everyone can rejoice at the fact that the Panthers are making only their second trip to the big dance in the schools history, with their last appearance being in 1992.

However, instead of savoring the moment, everyone is trying to figure out what seed Eastern will be, who they will face and where it will take place.

Let me save you the trouble. There is absolutely no way of figuring out any of the aforementioned questions.

The only thing that can be determined is the fact that the Panthers will be playing either next Thursday or Friday in one of these eight sites: New Orleans, La. and Memphis, Tenn. in the South Regional, Long Island N.Y. and Greensboro N.C. in the East, Kansas City, Mo. and Dayton, Ohio in the Midwest and Boise Idaho and San Diego in the West.

I have already talked to Ohio Valley Conference head coaches from Morehead State, Eastern Kentucky and Southeast Missouri State, and all three coaches pretty much told me to not waste my time trying to figure out where Eastern will play.

When you're looking at it from a fans standpoint, seeding is nothing but a crap shoot.

You would have just as easy of a time accurately predicting where a

### The Bottom Line



**Rob Valentin**

Staff writer

robvalentin777@hotmail.com

team will play by flipping a coin.

The selection committee usually assigns the top seed in each regional to the top team from that region but that's not always the case. And Eastern Illinois is certainly not in the position to be contending for a top seed.

Stanford will be the top seed in the West and Illinois or Michigan St. will get the top spot in the Midwest, depending on who does better or wins the Big Ten Tournament. The winner of the ACC tournament, presumably Duke or North Carolina will get the No. 1 seed in the East while the other team is probably good enough to get the top seed in the South as long as they don't fall apart in their conference tourney.

One of the major factors in determining seeding is not the polls but something called the Ratings Percentage Index, which takes into account Division I winning percentage (25%), schedule strength (50%)

and opponents schedule strength (25%).

The Panthers will most likely be in the 14 or 15 seed range, depending on how many teams that have lower RPI's win their respective conference. Eastern's RPI ranking, as of March 2, was 116. Five teams who have already received their automatic bids have RPI rankings lower than Eastern: Iona (125), Princeton (131), Monmouth (158), Winthrop (185) and UNC Greensboro (191).

Injuries also seem to play a big part in determining seedings. If you remember last years tournament Cincinnati did not receive the No. 1 seed because Kenyon Martin was injured and the selection committee was hesitant to give away a top spot to a team that was missing their star player.

This scenario may happen again this year as Iowa is on the bubble and are playing without their top player Luke Recker. Because of this the Hawkeyes may have a tough time convincing the selection committee to give them a spot.

The bottom line is that everyone should just relax and enjoy the moment. Come Sunday you can start planning your road trip to whatever site Eastern gets sent to.

After all, it's pretty rare to be at a school around the 10,000 enrollment mark and actually have a team representing them in the NCAA Tournament. So revel in the moment, Eastern has it to made the big dance.

# Panthers brave the cold weather for home opener

## Softball team plays host to U of I today

By Kristin Rojek  
Associate sports editor

The softball team opens up its spring season Thursday, hosting the University of Illinois at Williams Field in a doubleheader at 4:30 p.m.

After months of off-season work, the team will use Thursday's game to prepare for future tournaments in California and Hawaii.

"We've worked on the fundamentals indoors with reps with the bats, defense, fielding balls, and sometimes it feels monotonous," head coach Lloydene Searle said. "That is the mental part of the season and we need to make sure it will translate in success on the field.

"They look forward to going outside. We usually don't schedule this early, but because we're headed to warmer weather, we've got to get some games under our belt."

Eastern will travel to the University of Pacific for a doubleheader March 14 before competing in the Cal State Capital Classic in California March 15-18. The team will then follow that tournament with the Hawaii Tournament March 22-25.

"We're right at the point where we need a game and it's hard to do in the fieldhouse, even in a scrimmage," Searle said.

"If we can get in these first two games (against Illinois), we'll get out the first game jitters."

Illinois will bring a young team to Eastern, with just one senior and one junior to lead the 17 freshmen. The Fighting Illini's first soft-



File photo

A member of the Panther softball team attempts a bunt in a game last season. Eastern opens its 2001 campaign at home today against the University of Illinois at Williams Field.

ball program is led by head coach Terri Sullivan.

"They are a young program and a young team, but we match up pretty well in that way," Searle said.

"They have good athleticism and they've already had some games which proved themselves.

"They are not going to be chomping at the bit like we are," Searle said. "They've already had some games and they are led by a good coach."

Illinois has already established an 11-5 record, finishing 6-0 in the Sam Houston Tournament, 3-3 in the Triangle Classic in Chapel Hill, N.C., and 2-2 in the Florida

Atlantic Tournament in Boca Raton, Fla.

"How hard we worked in the off-season will show on Thursday night," Searle said.

The competition against Illinois will prepare the Panthers for the game experience in California next week.

See **OPENER** Page 11